

1997-98 SESSION
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

Committee Name:

Joint Committee on
Finance
(JC-Fi)

Sample:

- Record of Comm. Proceedings
- 97hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01a
- 97hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01b
- 97hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

➤

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ 97hr_JC-Fi_Misc_pt03k_DPR

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤

Joint Finance

16.505/16.515

14 Day Passive
Reviews

12/23/96 to

2/18/97

Law Enforcement Block
Grants 12/30/96

STATE OF WISCONSIN

SENATE CHAIR
BRIAN BURKE

Room 302H
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882
Phone: (608)266-8535



ASSEMBLY CHAIR
BEN BRANCEL

LL2, 119 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952
Phone: 608-266-7746

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

December 30, 1996

The Honorable Tommy G. Thompson
Governor, State of Wisconsin
Room 115 East
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Governor Thompson:

We are writing to inform you that the members of the Joint Committee on Finance have reviewed your December 9, 1996 request pursuant to 16.54(2)(a)2, Stats., concerning the expenditure of federal block grant funds for the purchase of "cardscan" devices for sheriffs' departments across the state.

No objections have been raised concerning this request. Accordingly, the request is approved.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Brian Burke in black ink.

BRIAN BURKE
Senate Chair

Handwritten signature of Ben Brancel in black ink.

BEN BRANCEL
Assembly Chair

BB:BB:jc

cc: Members, Joint Committee on Finance
Richard Chandler, State Budget Director
Linda Nelson, DOA

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Brian Burke
Representative Ben Brancel
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee on Finance

Date: December 10, 1996

Re: Request for Expenditure of Federal Local Law Enforcement Block Grants

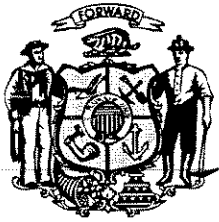
Under 1995 Wisconsin Act 132, the Governor may not administer, and state agencies may not encumber or expend, federal block grant funds authorized under any federal law enacted after August 31, 1995, without notifying the Joint Committee on Finance of the grant and the proposed expenditures. If the Co-Chairs of the Committee do not notify the Governor within 14 working days after receiving the request that a meeting has been scheduled to review the proposal, the moneys may be expended as proposed by the Governor. If a meeting is scheduled, no moneys may be expended without approval by the Committee.

On December 9, 1996, the Co-Chairs received the attached request from the Governor for expenditure of federal block grant funds for local law enforcement in the amount of \$618,934. The governor proposes that the funds be used for the purchase of "cardscan" devices for sheriffs' departments throughout the state.

Please review this item and notify Senator Burke or Representative Brancel no later than Monday, December 30, 1996, if you have any concerns about the request or would like the Committee to meet formally to consider it.

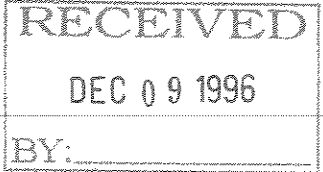
Also, please contact us if you need further information.

BB:BB:jc



TOMMY G. THOMPSON

**Governor
State of Wisconsin**



December 9, 1996

The Honorable Brian Burke, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
100 North Hamilton Street, Room 302
Madison, WI 53707

The Honorable Ben Brancel, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
119 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53707

Re: Notification of Federal Block Grant

Dear Senator Burke and Representative Brancel:

Attached is a request for expenditure of block grant funds being made available to the state by the federal government. Pursuant to s. 16.54(2)(a)2., the grant funds will be made available for encumbering through the allotment process within 14 working days after the date of this notification letter, unless you notify me that a meeting has been scheduled for the Joint Committee on Finance to review the proposed expenditure of grant monies.

Please also contact State Budget Director Richard G. Chandler (266-1035) in the Department of Administration if you have any additional questions or if you schedule a meeting to review the proposed expenditure.

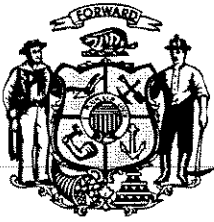
Thank you for your prompt attention to this notification letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tommy G. Thompson".
TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

TGT/mvl

Attachment



TOMMY G. THOMPSON

Governor
State of Wisconsin

December 9, 1996

The Honorable Brian Burke, Co-Chair
The Honorable Ben Brancel, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
119 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53702

Re: Local Law Enforcement Block Grant

Dear Senator Burke and Representative Brancel:

The Federal Budget for Fiscal Year 1996 provided a total of \$2,945,904 in Local Law Enforcement Block Grant funds to the State of Wisconsin. Of that total, \$2,326,970 is being provided directly to most large local law enforcement agencies in separate awards. Per federal Statute, local agency award amounts were determined by a formula based on the number of Part I Violent Index Crimes as reported through the Uniform Crime Reporting system. The federal Bureau of Justice Assistance is making direct awards to those agencies which generated an award of \$10,000 or more.

State government will receive the remainder of each state's total allocation. This is the amount generated by smaller agencies which would have received less than \$10,000 by the formula method. For Wisconsin, this amount is **\$618,934**. Although this amount is based upon the violent crime totals of smaller agencies, the funds may be used for a broad range of activities for any number of agencies.

Funds must be used for activities or costs within seven broad purpose areas which include new staff, overtime costs, equipment purchases, new court and adjudication projects, multijurisdictional task forces, and crime prevention programs. Funds may not be used to supplant existing fund sources and a ten percent match is required.

One potential use of this allocation would be to replicate the federal formula-based distribution process for small agencies, limiting awards to less than \$10,000. Some awards under such a process would be quite small. Earlier this year however, representatives of the Badger Sheriffs Association and the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association began discussing other, more focused ways of utilizing these funds with the Office of Justice Assistance (OJA). Recently, the Presidents of both Associations jointly proposed to the OJA, which will administer these funds, that the State's allocation be directed toward the purchase of "cardscan" devices for Sheriff's Departments. This recent technology would enable fingerprint cards of persons arrested to be transmitted electronically to the State's criminal history repository in the Department of Justice. This process would increase the timeliness and accuracy of information available to all law enforcement agencies on persons arrested and convicted.

December 9, 1996

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It is estimated that 30 to 35 cardscan machines can be provided with the State's FFY 1996 Block Grant allocation. An additional eight cardscan devices, plus three "livescan" machines (a still more automated fingerprint scanner), will be provided to Sheriff's Departments through another federal grant source, the National Criminal History Improvement Program. Coupled with seven counties which already have livescan devices, this combined effort would provide this automated capability to a significant majority of Sheriff's Departments statewide.

As a result of the endorsement of these two major law enforcement organizations, I am proposing this technology focus for the State's Block Grant award. It is my intention that this cardscan capability be provided to as many Sheriff's Departments as possible, on the basis of arrest volume or similar objective criteria, to achieve as close to statewide coverage as possible.

Within the next few months, the State will receive a comparable FFY 1997 Law Enforcement Block Grant award. I will be recommending to you that we complete this effort with those funds by making these devices available to *all* the remaining eligible Sheriff's Departments. Although these funds cannot be awarded to counties which receive direct awards under this program, we would encourage those few counties to use a portion of their award for this purpose.

As proposed, this program would not require any administrative funds for the Office of Justice Assistance, and all funds would be expended for the benefit of local law enforcement agencies. The recipient agencies would be required to provide a ten percent cash match toward the purchase of this equipment. Funds would be expended through sec. 20.505(6)(p), stats., Federal Aid, Criminal Justice Improvement Projects, Local Assistance. This allocation would add \$619,000 in budget authority to the existing Office of Justice Assistance appropriation for local subgrant awards of \$859,000, for a total SFY 97 appropriation of \$1,478,000.

I am pleased that the Badger Sheriffs Association and Wisconsin Police Chiefs Association have taken the initiative to develop this program concept and communicate their needs to us. I am very enthusiastic about this proposal and encourage your endorsement.

Sincerely,



TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor